

# National Canners Association

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Information  
Letter



For N. C. A.  
Members

Membership Letter No. 56.

March 22, 1924.

Doctor McCollum Praises N.C.A. Research Laboratory.  
Membership Campaign Progresses.  
Hawaiian Canned Foods Week Inspires Poem.  
N.C.A. Members Invited to American Grocers' Convention.  
Bill Extending Time for Claiming Tax Refunds Becomes Law.  
Brokers Association Takes Stand against Merchandising.  
Senator Copeland Declares Canned Foods Give Good Health  
and Strength.  
Action against Roof Manufacturers for Misbranding.  
Net Weight Declaration Required on Canned Artichokes.  
Supreme Court Bans Blanket Search of Corporation Books.

## Doctor McCollum Praises N.C.A. Research Laboratory.

So complimentary was a letter recently written to the National Canners Association Research Laboratory by Dr. E.V. McCollum, the noted hygiene authority of Johns Hopkins University, that his permission was asked to reprint it in this confidential bulletin to members. Doctor McCollum replied:

"I can see no reason why you should not publish my letter in your confidential bulletin. I must emphasize, however, that I have tried very earnestly to keep free from involvement in any trade matters or anything which might connect my name with the promotion of any manufactured food products. The object of my letter was to point out to you as an executive the importance of investing in research. I should appreciate it if you would publish this note in connection with my former letter."

Doctor McCollum's original letter read, in part, as follows:

"I have just had the privilege of seeing in advance of publication some of the results of the investigations carried out by Dr. E.F. Kohman of the National Canners Association Research Laboratory, on preserving the antiscorbutic factor in canned foods and also on protecting cans against perforation. This is one of the finest pieces of investigation that has come to my notice in recent times, and I want to congratulate you."

## Membership Campaign Progresses.

President Clark's letter to the members of the Board of Directors is meeting with hearty response. Many of them have already done good work in soliciting their fellow canners and their efforts will go a long way toward increasing membership in the Association.



This splendid cooperation is indeed encouraging to the executive officers, who anticipate one hundred per cent. support from the Board.

Hawaiian Canned Foods Week Inspires Poem.

In honor of Canned Foods Week, no less a personage than J.D.Dole, speaking at the Honolulu Rotary Club luncheon, dedicated the following poem to canned foods:

"When March comes and with it the trade wind,  
And the snow melts on King Street and Queen,  
Comes a week when the canners together  
Sing in praise of the pea and the bean.

Of the peach and the fat sweet potato  
That tickle the palate of man  
All the things from New York and tomato  
That they tuck in a shiny tin can.

It's the week that we know as Canned Foods Week,  
With the streamers of red, white, and blue,  
That tell of canned foods without number  
From everywhere brought here for you."

Early reports are that Hawaii eclipsed previous celebrations of Canned Foods Week, which is saying a good deal, as it has been a leader in the movement. A characteristic feature of the celebration was the fact that they pushed all canned products except their own.

N.C.A. Members Invited to American Grocers' Convention.

Members of the National Canners Association are cordially invited to attend the annual convention of the American Wholesale Grocers' Association, to be held at Dallas, Texas, May 13 to 16, inclusive. In extending the invitation, E.L.Adams, Secretary of the Association, writes:

"Reduced fares have been granted for the occasion of our Convention, and the rate will be a fare and a half for round trip tickets upon the certificate plan. We shall have a supply of certificates and we suggest you advise your members that they can secure them by applying to this office. We shall, of course, mail out certificates to our regular mailing list, but it is probable many of your members will not receive them unless they ask for them, as we cannot know in advance who may desire to attend."

Bill Extending Time for Claiming Tax Refund Becomes Law.

House Bill No. 6901, extending the time for claiming tax refunds and credits due under the Revenue Act of 1921 passed both the House and Senate and was signed by the President last Friday, March 14.

Brokers Association Takes Stand against Merchandising.

At the annual meeting of the National Food Brokers Association in Buffalo, in January, the Association revised its code of ethics to include a provision to the effect that the food broker who also engages in the speculative merchandising of food products is unethical.



Senator Copeland Declares Canned Foods Give Good Health and Strength.

Senator Royal S. Copeland, of New York, praises canned foods in a widely syndicated article. Senator Copeland writes, in part, as follows:

"Fruit and vegetables must be a part of the dietary. The canners have placed them at our disposal. We are wise if we use them. Then, if we live aright otherwise, health will abound.

"Every earth-grown or earth-raised thing we put up in cans is a reasonable thing.

"It is a product of the flush season, or the fruit of the autumn, or the summer vegetables. The reason for canning these articles is to care for the surplus, to make the food available in other seasons.

"Fruit canning has been one of the household arts since the beginning of modern times. In old days, vegetables were kept in their natural state, stored away in the cellar, or buried in out-of-door pits.

"The canning season is a busy time in the rural districts, but in the cities the fundamental products are too expensive to preserve. But even in the country districts commercially canned foods are growing in popularity. In the advertising pages of the current magazines are colored inserts, showing tempting pictures of delicious canned fruits and vegetables. It makes you hungry to gaze upon them. \* \* \*

"We cannot disregard the healthful effects of the pleasurable sensations received through nose and eye. Reflexly, these delightful feelings act upon appetite, and you recall the old quotation, 'Digestion waits on appetite.'

"Fruit and vegetables should be a part of your diet every day. It would be better to have them a part of every meal. I am firmly convinced that the canners are contributing to the good health of the people by making fruit and vegetables available for this purpose throughout the year.

"Certain vegetables like spinach, tomatoes, string beans, and others of unusual health value, particularly to children, are placed at the daily disposal of the household. Foods which contain the tangible iron content or the intangible vitamins are constantly within reach.

"When I think about the commercial canners, I cannot help rejoicing that they have given so real a contribution to the public welfare. They have made it possible to convert heretofore wasted products of garden, orchard, and field into invaluable foodstuffs. In this way the canners help the producers. Then by doing the canning they give us the food we need to ward off scurvy and other so-called 'deficiency diseases.'

"It is assumed that the canned foods under discussion are made of ripe and sound material, and put up with pure canning substances. The label will say this, but it must mean what it says.

"The housewife should learn where pure brands are to be found, and should purchase only the best within her reach."





Action Against Roof Manufacturers for Misbranding.

A case in which the Federal Trade Commission has taken action against a number of firms for alleged misbranding of the product is of general interest to all manufacturers. The Commission charges that a number of manufacturers of roofing materials engaged in unfair practices by using names and advertising matter indicating that their products contained rubber when in fact they did not.

Net Weight Declaration Required on Canned Artichokes.

Responding to an enquiry from the National Cannery Association regarding the declaration required on canned artichokes, P.B. Dunbar, Acting Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, replies as follows:

"The Bureau is of the opinion that the quantity of contents of canned artichokes should be declared in terms of the net weight of the drained contents. There will be no objection, however, to an additional statement of the number of artichokes contained in each can if the manufacturer so desires, provided that this statement is made in such a manner as not to deceive the purchaser.

"It is suggested that this manufacturer might take advantage of that portion of the net weight amendment which makes it permissible to declare the net contents of foods in terms of the minimum weight. This might somewhat facilitate the difficulty in declaring the net contents of artichokes since this product shows such a great variation depending on the number of artichokes contained in each can."

Supreme Court Bans Blanket Search of Corporation Books.

According to a decision of the United States Supreme Court, a blanket search by the Federal Trade Commission into private papers, on the possibility that such papers may disclose evidence of crime, is banned.

Two petitions had been filed in the court by the commission to require the American Tobacco Company and the P. Lorillard Company to produce records, contracts, and correspondence for inspection and making copies. The Commission is investigating the tobacco situation as to domestic and export trade, with particular reference to market price producers, etc., under a resolution passed by the Senate in 1921.

The Supreme Court declared that the right of access given by the statute is to documentary evidence--not to all documents, but to such documents as are evidence. The decision goes on to say:

"The analogies of the law do not allow the party wanting evidence to call for all documents in order, to see if they do not contain it. Some ground must be shown for supposing that the documents called for do contain it. Formerly in equity the ground must be found in admissions in the answer. We assume that the rule to be applied here is more liberal, but still a ground must be laid and the demand must be reasonable. A general subpoena in the form of these petitions would be bad. Some evidence of the materiality of the papers demanded must be produced."